

- HERGÉ -  
★  
THE ADVENTURES OF  
TINTIN

# THE BLUE LOTUS



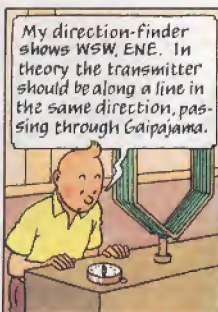
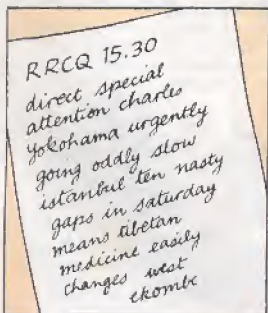
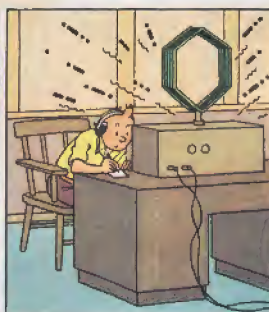
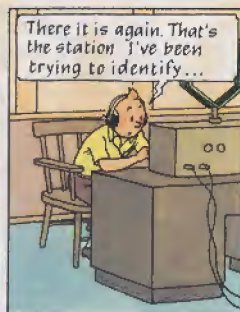
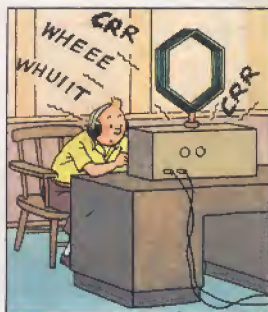
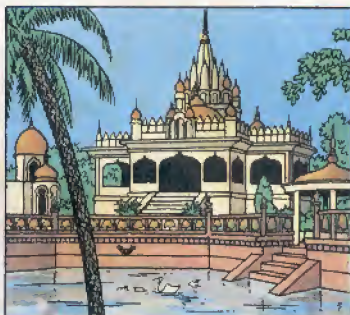
# THE BLUE LOTUS

## 藍蓮花

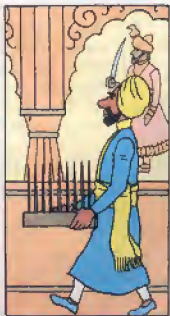
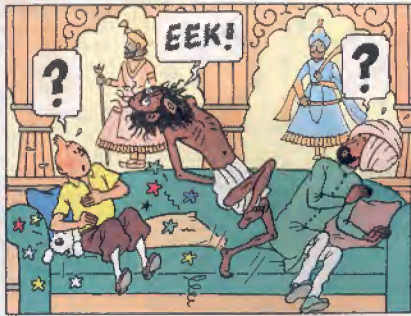
TINTIN AND SNOWY are in India, guests of the Maharaja of Gaipajama, enjoying a well-earned rest. The evil gang of international drug-smugglers, encountered in *Cigars of the Pharaoh*, has been smashed and its members are behind bars. With one exception. Only the mysterious gang-leader is

unaccounted for: he disappeared over a cliff.

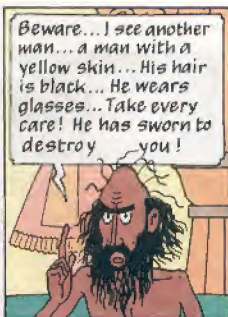
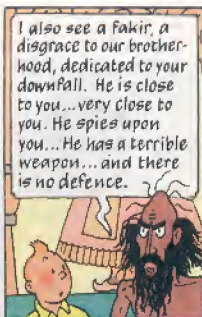
But questions have still to be answered. What of the terrible Rajajah juice, the 'poison of madness'? Where were the shipments of opium going, hidden in the false cigars? And who really was the master-mind behind the operation?



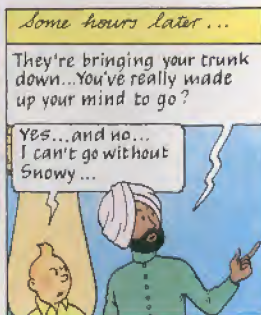
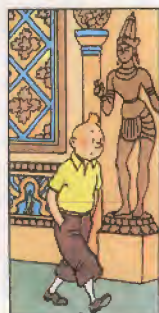
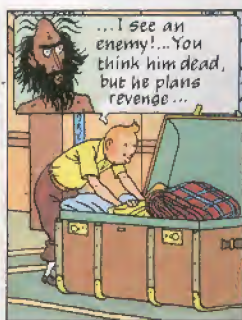
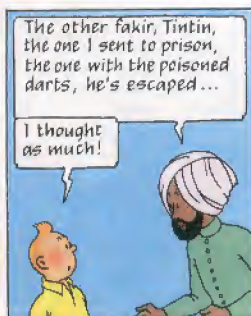


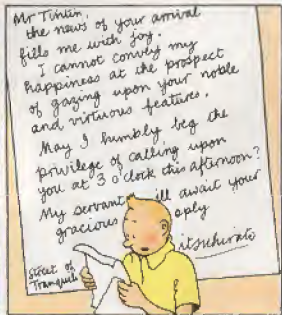
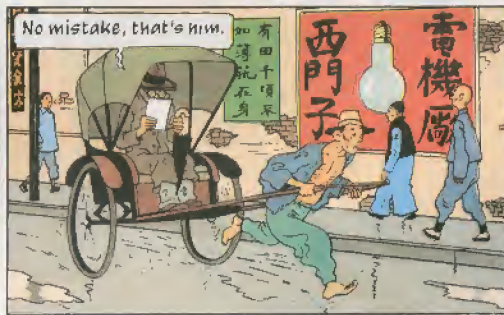
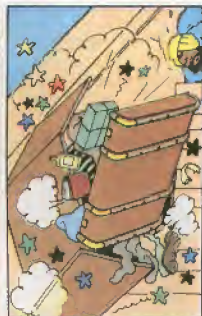
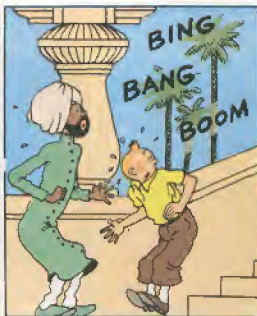




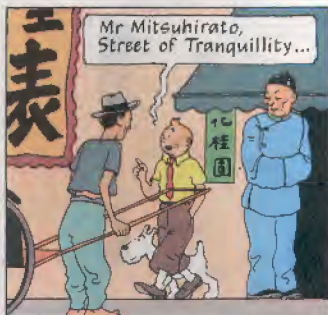
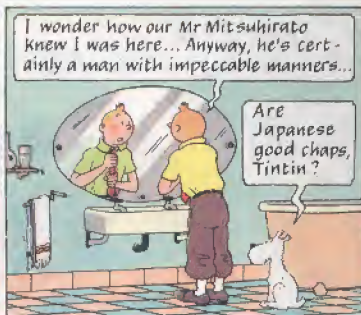


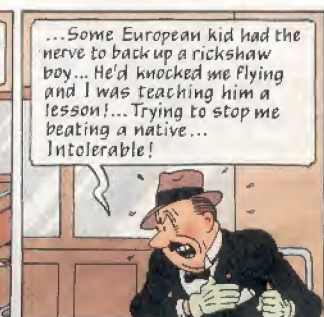






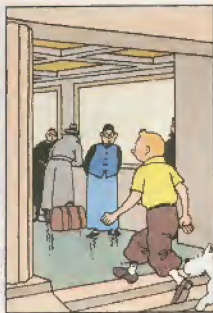
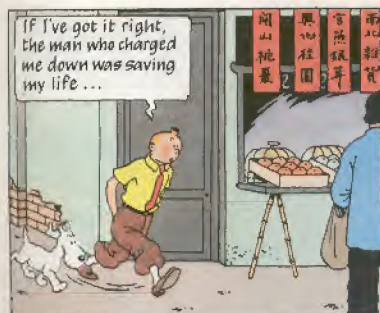
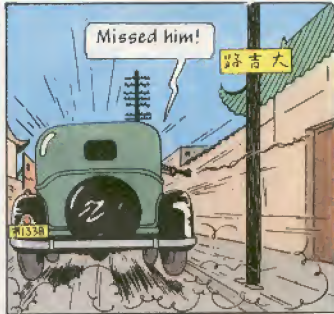
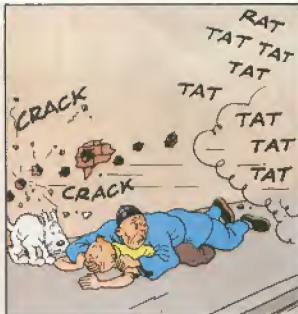




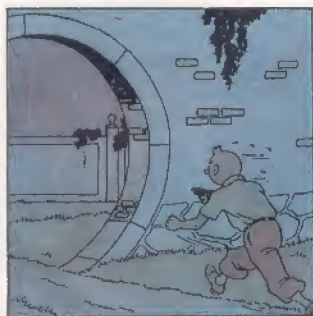
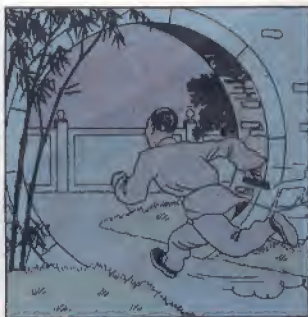


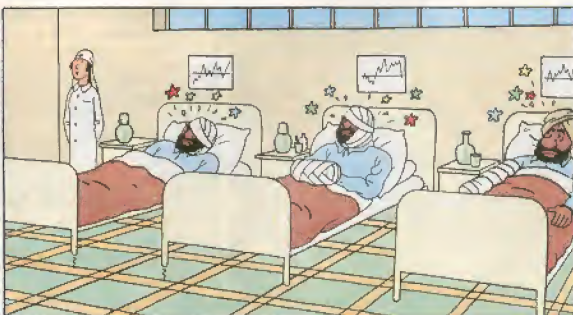
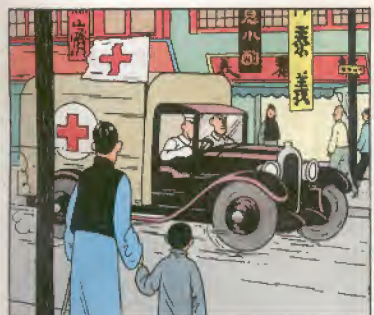
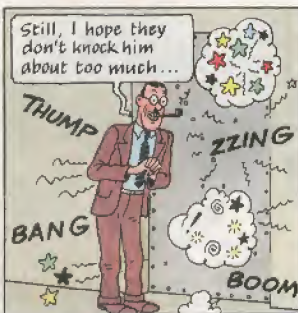
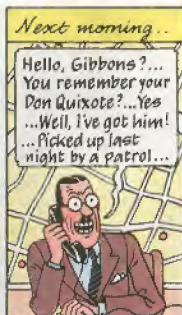




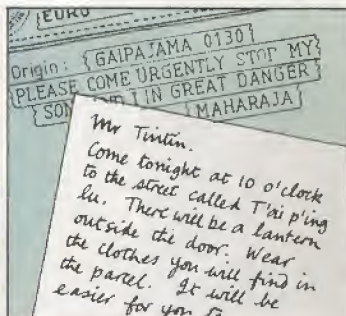






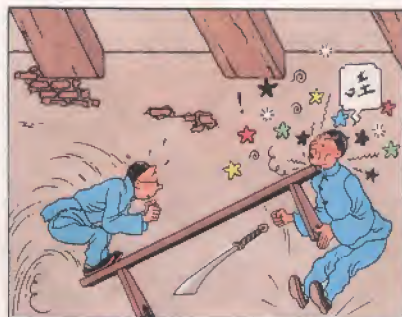








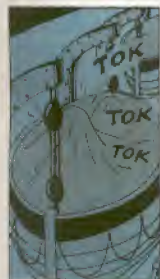
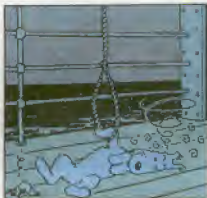
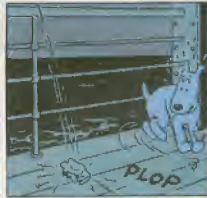
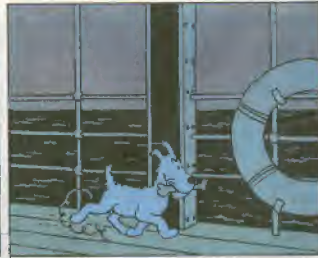
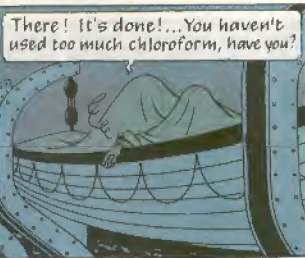




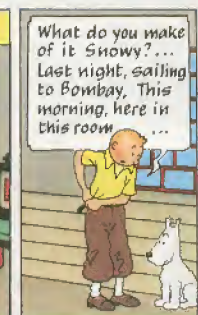
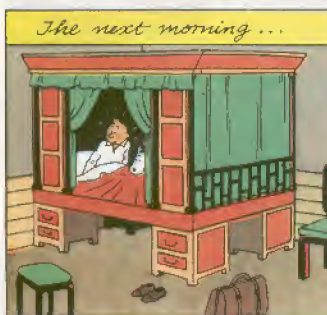
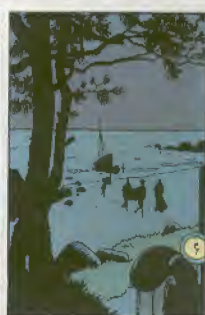
That night...

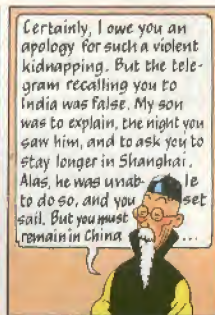
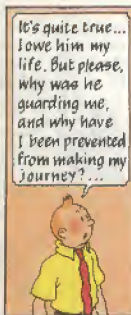
Are you coming Snowy?  
Let's take a stroll  
round the deck...

Allright. I'll  
catch you up...











Yes, Mitsuhirato. He's a Japanese secret agent in China...and at the same time, one of the most active and evil of men...



Hello, Tokyo?



...Not content with spying, he has joined forces with opium smugglers...He helps them distribute all over the world, but mostly here in China.



Hello?... Hello? Tokyo here...



Yes, Excellency... All is well... Tintin?... On the way to India... recalled by telegram, sent by me, of course... No, not easy... Those meddling Sons of the Dragon tried to keep him here... I had to take extreme measures...



Perfect!... Now the coast is clear for... you know what. Succeed in that... and you will receive the Order of Fujiyama, first class!



I'm certain to succeed, Excellency, provided your propaganda is well organised... It will be?... That is good!... Goodbye then, Excellency...



We hoped you would be willing to help us, so we sent a messenger to India... But Mitsuhirato's spy network is excellent. They attacked the messenger and he went mad... Yet you still came, and...



WOAH! WOAH!



That's Snowy!



Snowy!... He's gone!

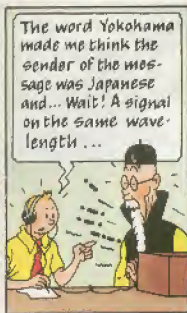
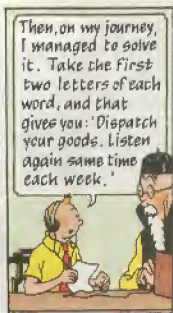
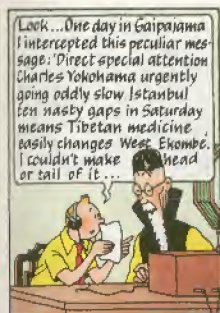
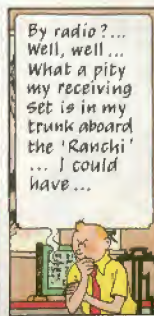
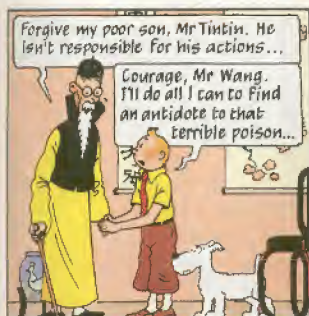


I'm going to help you to find the way. Don't worry, there's nothing to it... It just means cutting off your head...

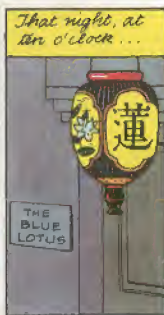


Look how sharp the blade is...

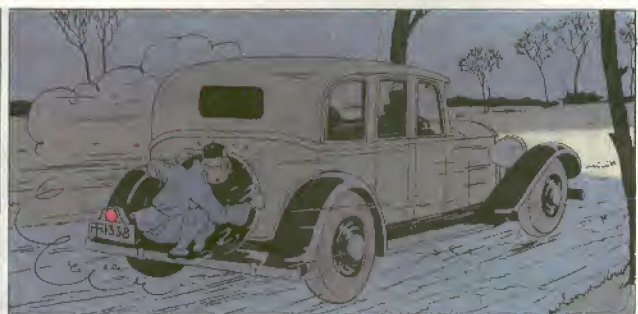
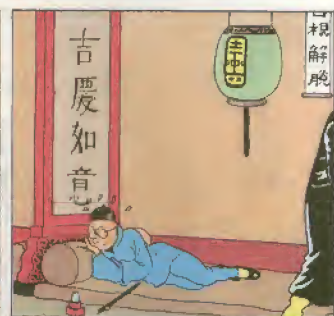




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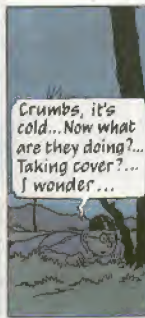


You have everything?

Careful!...  
We've  
arrived ...



Now then, to work! ...



Crumbs, it's  
cold... Now what  
are they doing?...  
Taking cover?...  
I wonder ...



Perfect!



Hello?... Cheng fu station?...  
Chinese bandits have just  
blown the track... At post 123



Brrrr!  
I'm frozen!



ATCHOOOO!

!

?

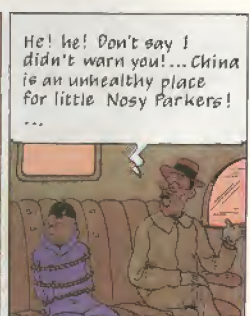
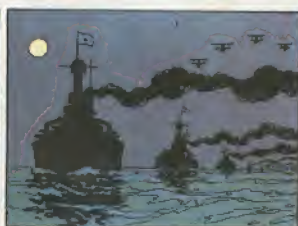
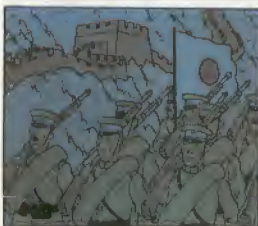
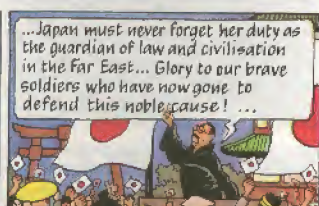
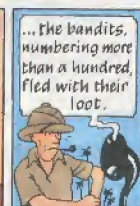
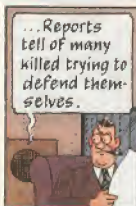
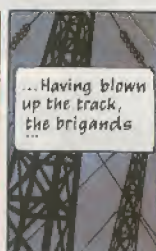
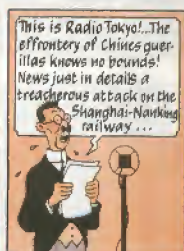
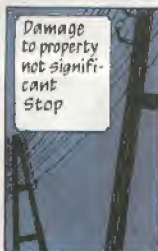
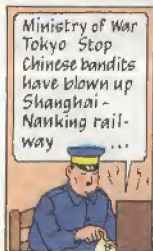


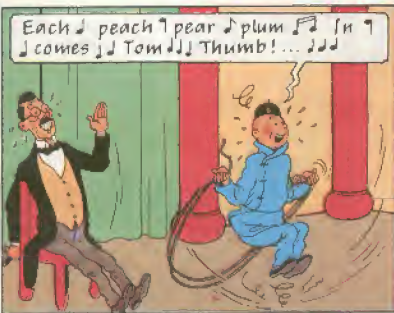
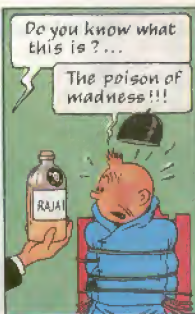
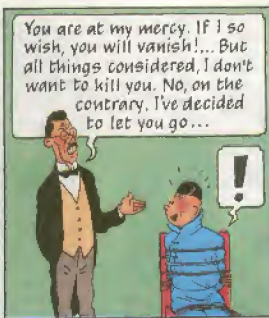
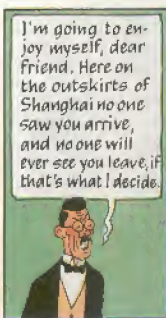
Someone over there!...  
Look!... A spy!...



BANG











Seven suffering  
Samurais!  
That's not  
Rajaijah... So  
what did I...?

Chang went to  
watch the house of  
Mitsukihirato,  
Venerable... He  
has return- ned...  
Send  
him  
here at  
once!

I was hidden in the  
next room. I put  
coloured water in  
place of the Rajaijah,  
and I've brought you  
the real poison. I  
took care of his knife  
and his gun too ...

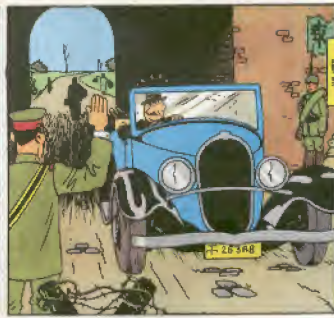
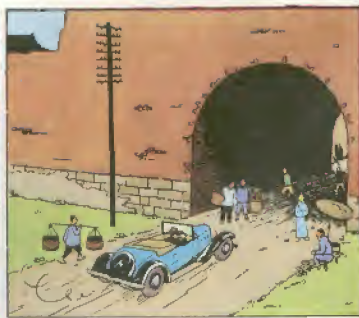
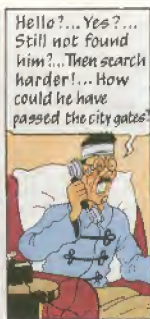
I'll soon find him. He  
can't have gone far...

There!! ...

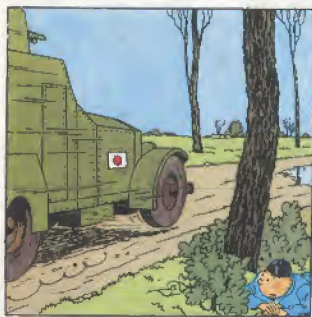
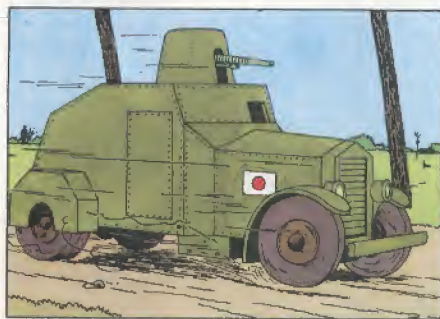
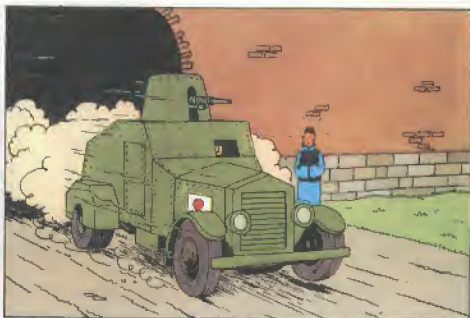


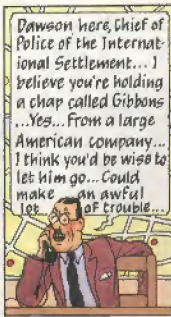
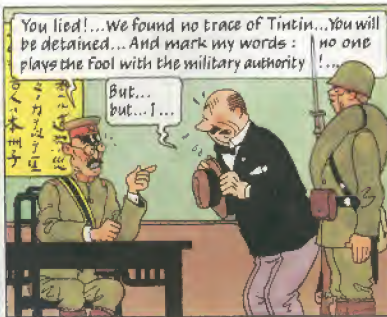




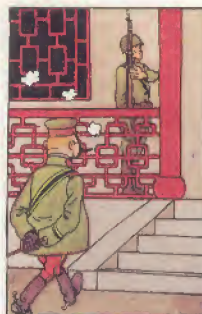
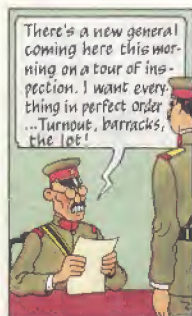














Full of charm, isn't he? And that's our new general!



Major, there's a little man who insists upon seeing you. He claims to be the general.

Bring him in. I'll give him 'general'!



But... but the general has just left!



And I'm telling you, block-head, that I'm General Haranochi!... I was attacked on the road by a young Chinese who stripped me of my uniform!...



No one about?... Good!



Here we go! ...



Two ...



One ...



And three!



Now let's release my false stomachach... All right, Snowy?



Now to the International Settlement... And make it snappy!



All's well. We made it!



Halt! ... Your papers!



My identity papers? ...I'm afraid I haven't got them with me... But my name's Tintin

Sorry! ... Nothing doing!



But look! You can see I'm a European...

Nothing doing!



What's the problem?

The boy hasn't any papers, sir...

Please...



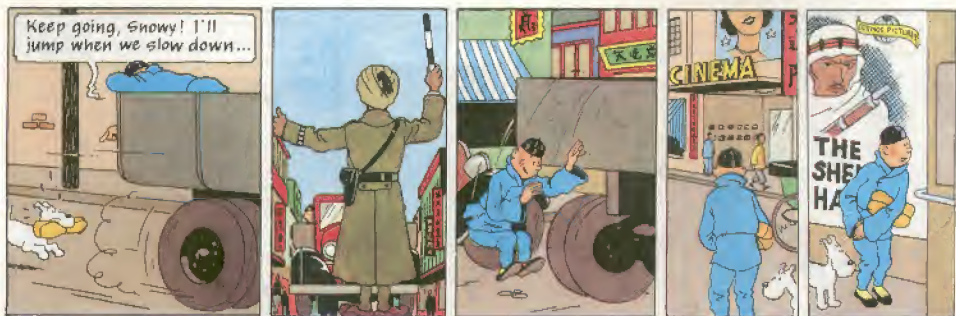
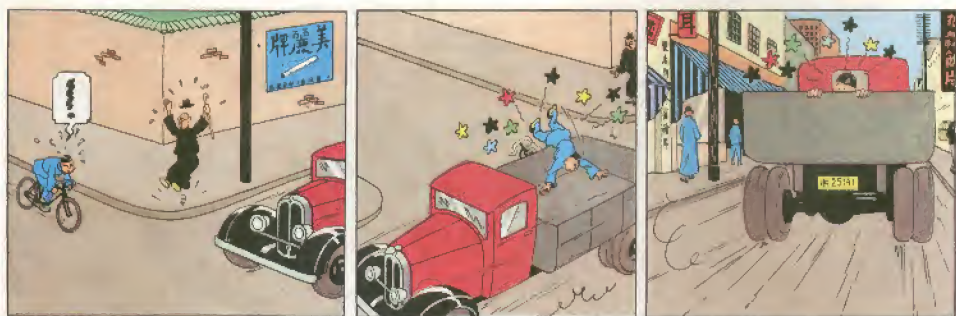
No use arguing, sonny. Must have proper papers to enter the Settlement...

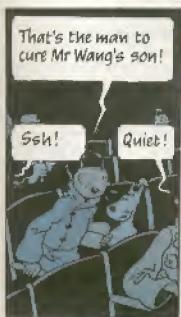
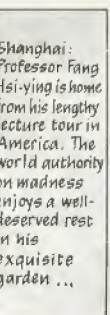
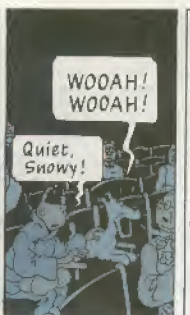
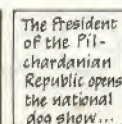
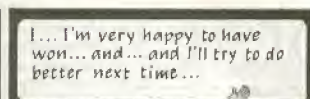
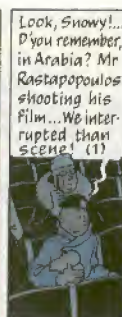


Now what?... Grumble! A Japanese patrol! I must get in. IF I don't...

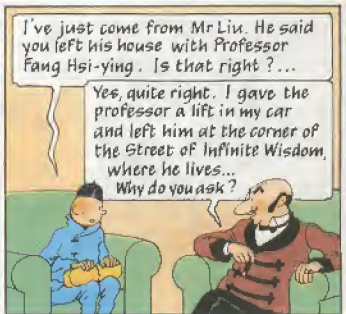
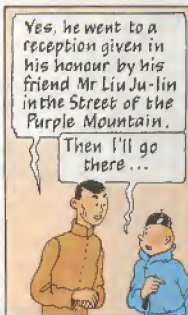
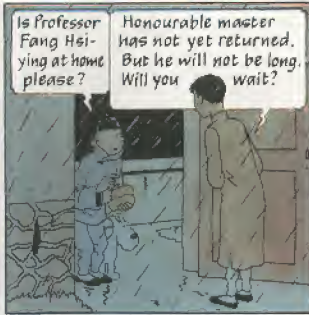














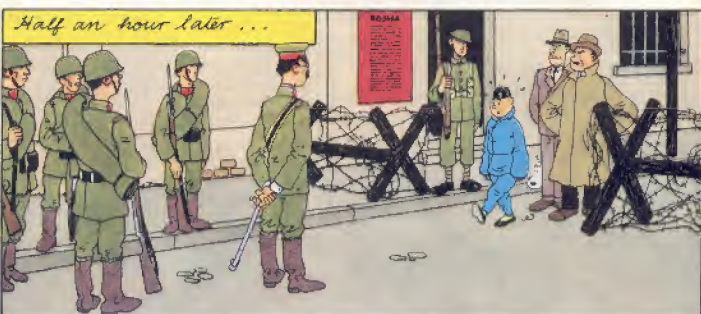
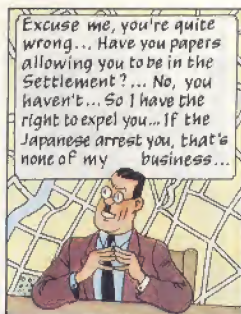
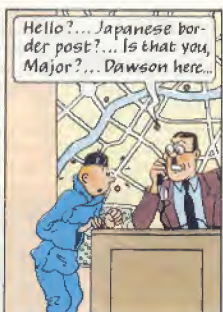
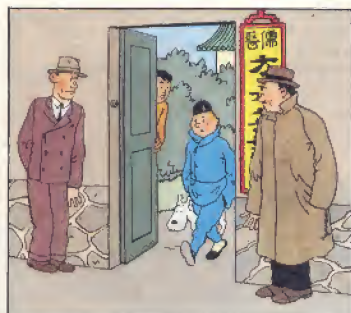


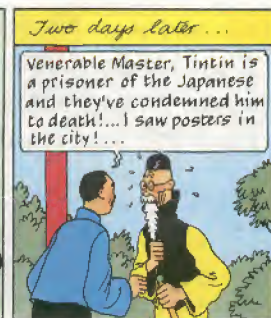


Dear Chen,  
I have been seized by Chinese gangsters demanding a ransom of 50,000 dollars. It is essential the police do not look for them. If they are alarmed they will kill me.

The ransom is to be left, within a fortnight, at the old temple about an hour's journey from Hukow on the right bank of the Yangtze Kiang. As I do not possess sufficient money

I'm going to look for the Professor... While I'm gone will you look after this package? ... Please, take the greatest care of it...





**NOTICE**

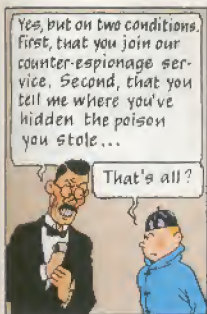
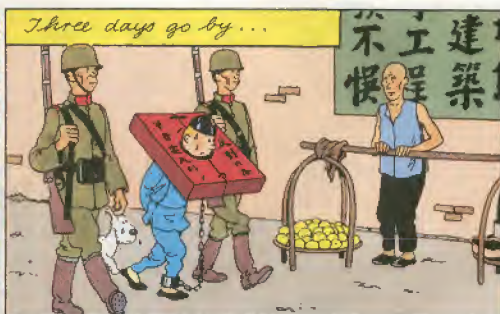
The Council of War of the Fifth Army of Occupation have CONDEMNED TO DEATH the prisoner TINTIN, found guilty of:

1. Espionage
2. Attempted murder of a Japanese
3. Assaulting a senior officer
4. Illegally wearing a uniform and medals

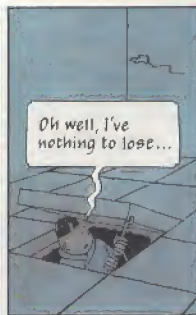
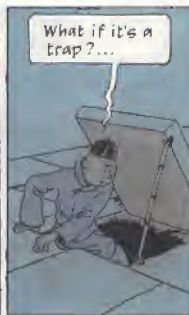
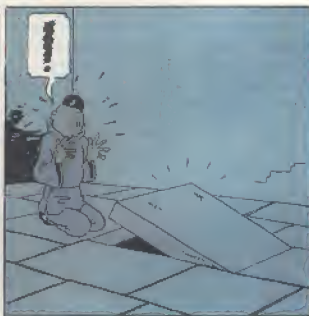
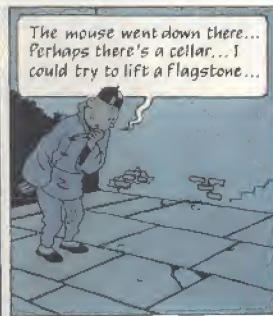
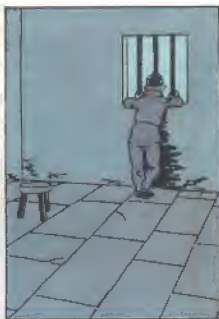
For three days preceding the execution the condemned man will wear the tablet and be paraded through the streets of the city as a warning to the population.

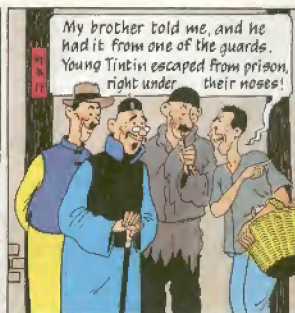
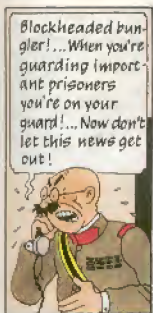
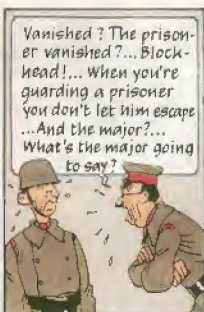
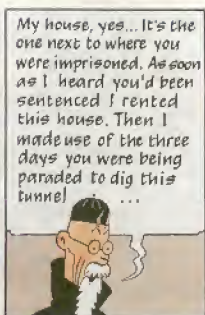
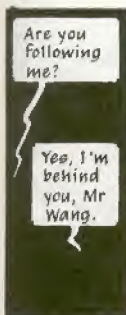
日本軍第五師團靖難罪犯  
遺犯刑罰状  
一、偵察  
二、暗殺  
三、襲撃  
四、偽服

此犯は、前記の如き罪状により、明日執行せらる。

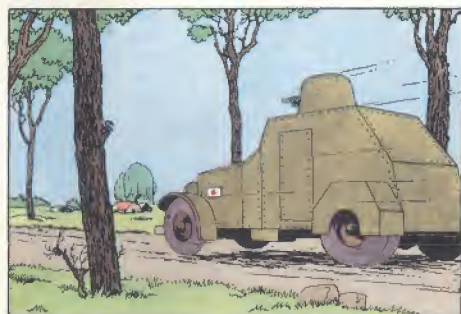
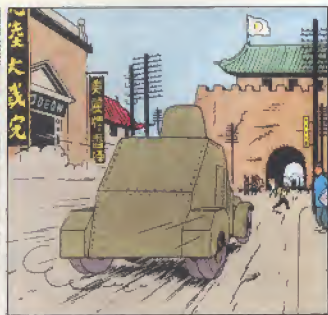
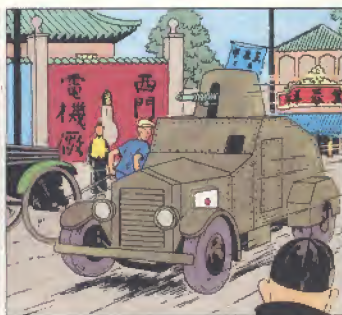


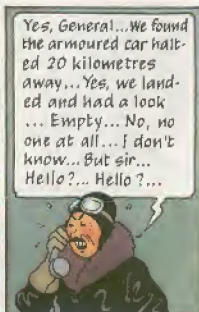




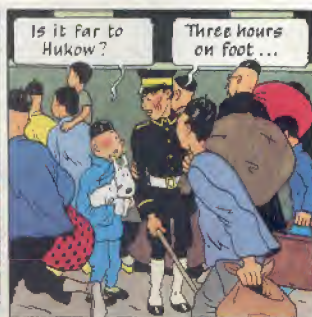


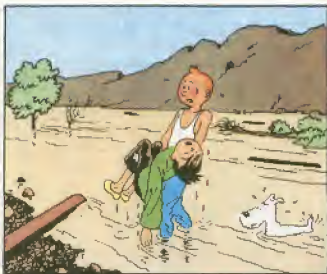












He's alive!

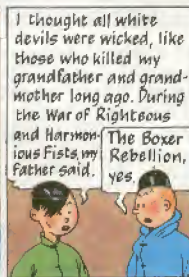


That's better, eh? You almost swallowed half the river!...What's your name?...I'm Tintin.



I am Chang Chong-chen... But ...why did you save my life?

?



I thought all white devils were wicked, like those who killed my grandfather and grandmother long ago. During the War of Righteous and Harmless Fists, my father said, The Boxer Rebellion, yes.



But Chang, all white men aren't wicked. You see, different peoples don't know enough about each other. Lots of Europeans still believe...

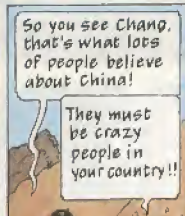


...that all Chinese are cunning and cruel and wear pig-tails, are always inventing tortures, and eating rotten eggs and swallows' nests...

The same stupid Europeans are quite convinced that all Chinese have tiny feet, and even how little Chinese girls suffer agonies with bandages...



...designed to prevent their feet developing normally. They're even convinced that Chinese rivers are full of unwanted babies, thrown in when they are born.



So you see Chang, that's what lots of people believe about China!

They must be crazy people in your country!!



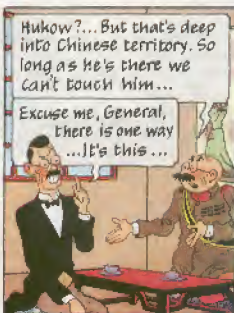
Meanwhile...

I have news for you, General, about Tintin...

You know where he is?



I have just received a telegram... He caught a train this morning for Hukow...



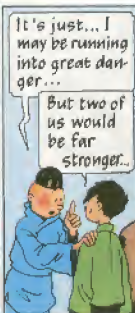
Hukow?... But that's deep into Chinese territory. So long as he's there we can't touch him...

Excuse me, General, there is one way... It's this...



Now, Chang, what are you going to do?

My parents are lost... I've nowhere to go... Couldn't I come with you?...



It's just... I may be running into great danger...

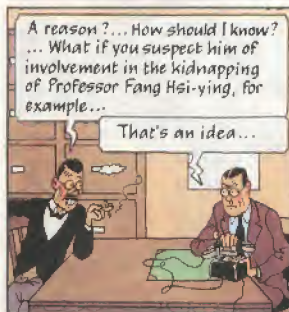
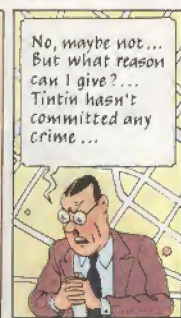
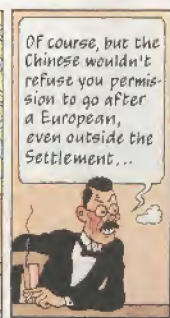
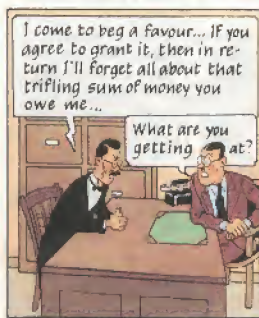
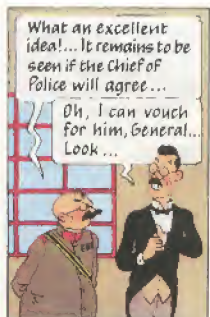
But two of us would be far stronger...



OK, then!... OFF to Hukow!

I know a short cut...

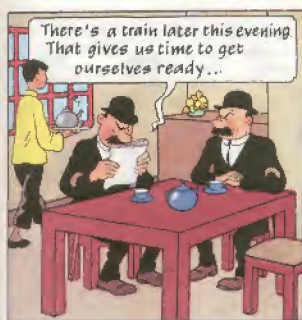






軍警當局  
與以臂助  
此執照者  
公安總局

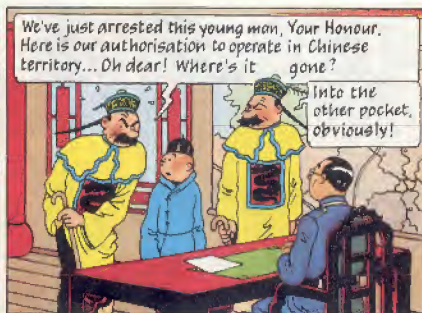
POLICE HEADQUARTERS  
All Chinese authorities are hereby directed to render whatever assistance may be required by the bearer of this pass.

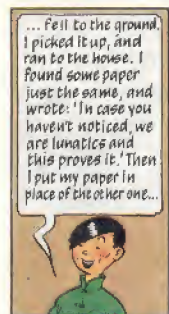
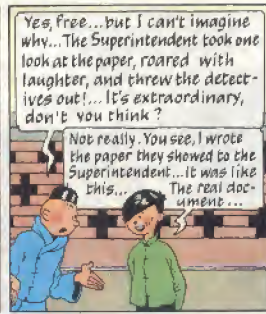


Next morning...  
What a life... All night in the train... then three hours walk... Hukow at last...











Botheration! Telegraph lines to Shanghai are cut because of the floods. We'll have to go ourselves...

To be precise... Shanghai will be flooded with telegrams because we cut ourselves...

Here's the storm... I think we'd be safer to go back down...

You're right, Chang...

Meanwhile, in Hukow...

Here's my messenger! ... You've got news of Tintin's arrest, that's for sure!

'Arrest failed. Tintin free. Instructions awaited.' Seventy-seven suffering Samurais!

I want this Finished! Desperate cases call for desperate remedies! 'Liquidate!' One word, that's enough!

What a beastly business... travelling all night...

All because of that rotten commissar!...

The next morning...

That's the old temple they mean...

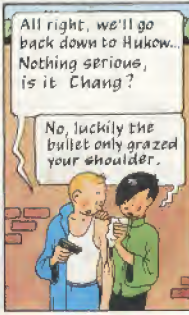
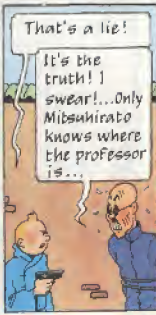
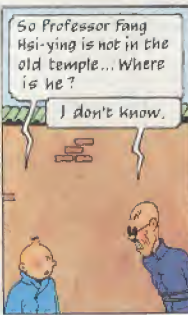
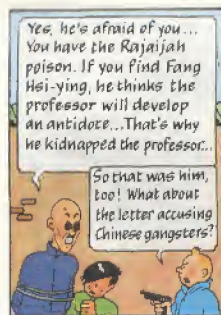
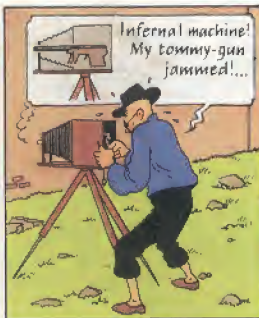
A lot of tourists must visit this old temple. Look, Chang, there's even a photographer...

Picture of you together, gentlemen? Ready in five minutes ...

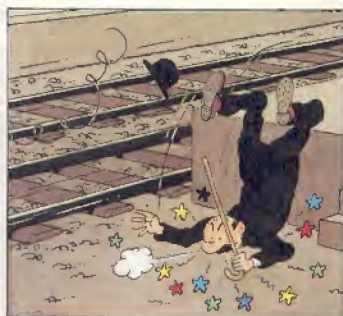
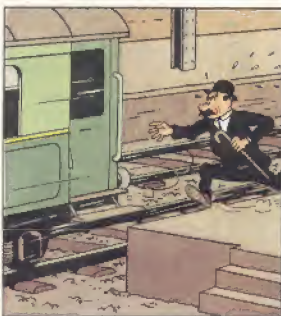
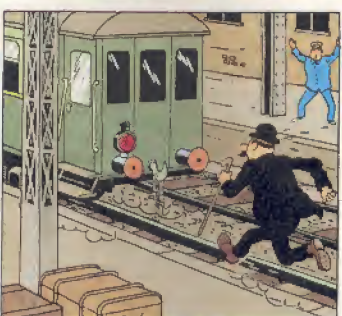
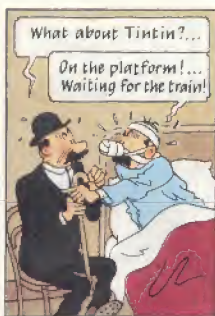
OK? If you like...

Ready now... Watch the birdie!...

BANG BANG BANG







*Next morning...*

That's the last of the passengers... and still no sign of Tintin...

No luck, chief... He wasn't on the train. I reckon he hopped off en route...

Infuriating! Wretched little brat! ...Always outwits us at the last minute!

It's dark now... We can risk it...



Good thing we jumped when the train slowed outside the station. I'm sure someone would have been waiting at the bar...

Mr Mitsuhirato? ...Yes, it's me... I'm afraid not... slipped through our fingers!... Yes, I'm as sorry as you are... What do you expect? I did my best...

Policemen! ...I suppose I'll have to do it myself, for the umpteenth time!

Come in!

RAT  
TAT  
TAT

Master, Tintin is in Shanghai!... I saw him with a Chinese boy. They got into a taxi, but I couldn't hear the address they gave the driver...

Pity!... Listen, Yamato... Get busy... Try to discover where he's gone to ground, and who's hiding him. Understand?

Yes.

The gods be praised! We meet again!... You must rest for a few days... Give your wound a chance to heal...

I will... Then we must deal with Mitsuhirato!

*A week later...*

You're sure it doesn't hurt any more?

Not a bit, Chang... Look, all back to normal...

*That night*

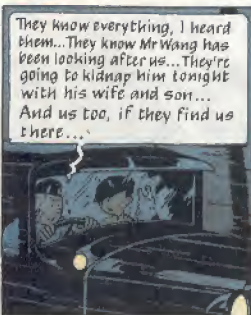
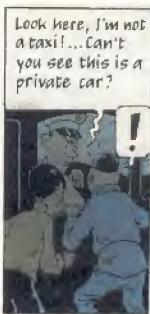
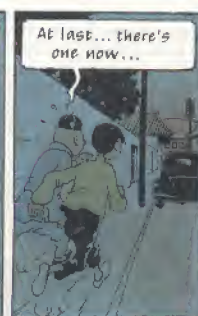
There's Mitsuhirato's house. While I get inside, you keep guard...

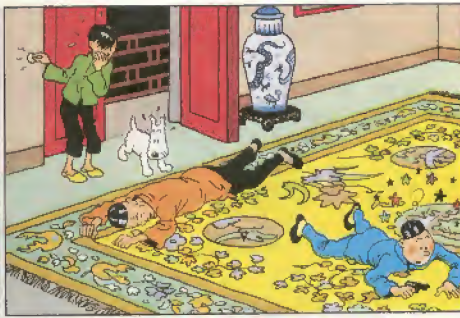
OK...

No one!... So far so good...

You're sure Tintin is there right now?...



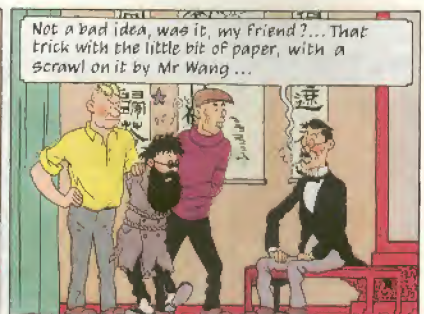
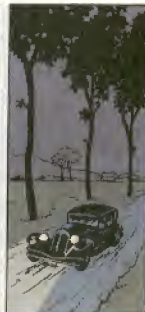








The Blue Lotus?... It's an opium den in Shanghai... How do I get in without being recognised?... In disguise?...



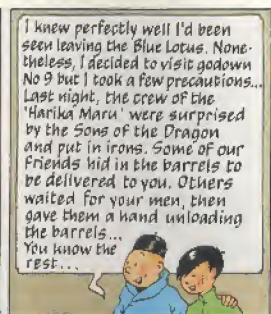
















# SHANGHAI NEWS

## 上海報

### FANG HSI-YING FOUND: Professor Prisoner in Opium Den

SHANGHAI, Wednesday:

Professor Fang Hsi-ying has been found! The good news was flashed to us this morning.

Last week eminent scholar Fang disappeared on his way home from a party given by a friend. Police efforts



Professor Fang Hsi-ying pictured just after his release.

to trace him were unavailing. No clues were found.

Young European reporter Tintin joined in the hunt for the missing man of science. Earlier we reported incidents involving Tintin and the occupying Japanese forces. Secret society Sons of the Dragon aided Tintin in the rescue. Fang Hsi-ying was kidnapped by an international gang of drug smugglers, now all safely in

police custody.

A wireless transmitter was found by police at Blue Lotus opium den. The transmitter was used by the drug smugglers to communicate with their ships on the high seas. Information radioed included sea routes, ports to be avoided, points of embarkation and unloading.

Home of Japanese subject Mitsuhirato was also searched. No comment, say police on reports of seizure of top-secret documents. Unconfirmed rumours suggest the papers concern undercover political activity by a neighbouring power. Speculation mounts that they disclose recent Shanghai-Nanking railway incident as a pretext for extended Japanese occupation. League of Nations officials in Geneva will study the captured documents.

### TINTIN'S OWN STORY

This morning, hero of the hour Mr Tintin, talked to us about his adventures.



Tintin, rescuer of Professor Fang Hsi-ying, with Snowy, his faithful companion.

When we called, our hero, young and smiling, greeted us wearing Chinese dress. Could this really be the scourge of the terrible Shanghai gangsters?

After our greetings and congratulations, we asked Mr Tintin to tell us how he succeeded in smashing the most dangerous organisation.

Mr Wang, a tall, elderly, venerable

man with an impish smile said: "You must tell the world it is entirely due to him that my wife, my son and I are alive today!"

With these words our interview was concluded, and we said farewell to the friendly reporter and his kindly host.

L.G.T.

Young people carry posters of Tintin through Shanghai streets.



The conclusions of the Sub-Committee leave no room for doubt. The documents seized in Shanghai provide irrefutable proof. The attack upon the Shanghai-Nanking railway was planned and executed by a Japanese subject working upon direct orders from his government!...

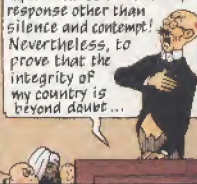


I shall be interested to hear the Japanese delegate's reply...

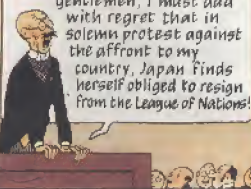
Me, too... Look, he's going to speak now...



Gentlemen, make no mistake! I categorically deny the accusations contained in the report of the 813rd Sub-Committee. These accusations are an insult to which Japan declines to make any response other than silence and contempt! Nevertheless, to prove that the integrity of my country is beyond doubt...



...I am authorised to announce that my government has ordered its troops to withdraw from Chinese territories occupied after the incident on the Shanghai-Nanking railway. To that, gentlemen, I must add with regret that in solemn protest against the affront to my country, Japan finds herself obliged to resign from the League of Nations!



Meanwhile, in Shanghai...

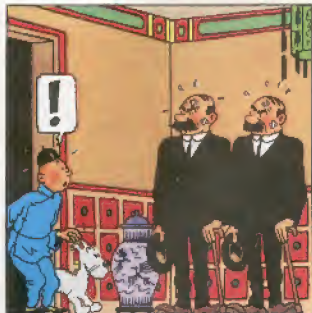
I have wonderful news for you: my son is cured!... Professor Fang Hsi-ying has discovered an antidote to the terrible poison of madness!...



He has?... Oh, how glad I am!

Venerable Master, two gentlemen wish to speak to Mr Tintin.





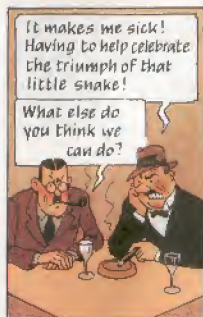
Good morning... Er... Here we are at last...

Um... er... So here you are?...

To be precise: good morning. Here we are, last as usual...

Yes, we've come... to offer our congratulations, and to tell you we... we...

We never believed for a minute you were guilty. But what could we do? We had to obey orders...



It makes me sick! Having to help celebrate the triumph of that little snake!

What else do you think we can do?



Look, Tintin!... Read this...

### THE BLUE LOTUS AFFAIR

#### MITSUHIRATO COMMITS HARA-KIRI

Shanghai, Saturday: Mr Mitsuhiro, implicated in the Blue Lotus affair and principal organiser of the attack on the Shanghai Nankin railwa



Poor devil!... Still, he was a real villain!



That reminds me... I'm glad to see you completely recovered from your fall.

Our fall? ... What fall?

Oh, yes, our famous fall in Hukow!



Oh, yes, our fall in Hukow!... Yes, yes, now I remember!...

Yes, we're fully recovered now. How could we come such a cropper? We've never fallen so low!...



We shan't forget that downfall... We've learnt our lesson. We'll be careful in future!

You can be sure we shan't fall for that again!



No, we'll be keeping our eyes open, never fear!

Now it's time to go. We must leave you.

Already?



Au revoir!...

Goodbye!...





*Some days later...*

... I raise my glass to your precious health, Tintin. Your courage and nobility have restored happiness to this humble house. Your memory will be engraved upon our hearts as in finest crystal...



There is one who, if such is possible, will miss you even more than I. Chang, who has already known the sadness of losing his parents. Chang, who found in you a brother. If he wishes, he will be my son, the brother of my own poor son to whom our honourable Friend Fang Hsi-ying has restored his reason...



What is the matter, Chang?

There is a rainbow in my heart, Venerable Lady... I weep because Tintin is going but the sunshines because I have a new mother and father!



Farewell, noble Tintin. May other friendships lighten your days in your country in the West, and accompany you along the way!



*The next morning...*



Goodbye, Tintin... Good luck go with you!

I wish the same for you, Chang!... Goodbye!

